

**CITY OF LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
LONG BEACH SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

MINUTES

April 15, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Higginson, Chair, called the meeting of the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission to order at 9:01 a.m., at the Long Beach Senior Center.

II. FLAG SALUTE –

Commissioner Yolken led the Commission in the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

III. ROLL CALL / WELCOME OF GUESTS

The following Commissioners responded to roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Patricia Bergendahl, 6th District
Barbara Bolin, 9th District
Rose Cabanban, 7th District
Betty Davenport, 5th District - Excused
Florence Dodge, 3rd District
Teodoro Felix, 1st District
Harold Goetz, 5th District - Excused

Rabbi Sidney Guthman, 3rd District
Nancy Higginson, 3rd District
Teresa Munoz, 2nd District
Debra Teofilo, 3rd District - Excused
Lu Wall, 3rd District
Robert Wenke, 3rd District
Berry Yolken, 3rd District

Staff

Belem Solis, Superintendent
Shelley Hellen, Community Services Supervisor
Del Ransom, Clerk II

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 18, 2004

The March 18, 2004 Senior Citizens Advisory Commission Minutes were approved as mailed.

V. GUEST SPEAKER (S)

The Atlantic Community Economic Development Corporation - Speakers did not show.

VI. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No public discussion was held.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Termed-out Commissioners

On June 30, 2004, Commissioner Goetz will have completed his term of office on the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission. The Commission has decided to have a Potluck on June 17, in his honor.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Legislation – Commissioner Teresa Munoz

Commissioner Munoz informed the Commission of the California United for Nursing Home Care. This group is comprised of nursing home operators, employees, residents, their family members, seniors, people with disabilities, elected officials, clergy and representatives of the community organizations. This organization is seeking to establish a new Medi-Cal funding system that reimburses the costs necessary to improve the quality of life for nursing home residents while ensuring the accountability of nursing home operators for the care they provide. (Attachment)

B. Transportation – Commissioner Nancy Higginson

The Transportation Committee had nothing to report.

C. Health Care – Commissioner Debra Teofilo

Commissioner Felix informed the Commission of the article “Best Laid Plans...” in the Press Telegram, which explained of how two new studies finds the strategy of delaying retirement to make up for saving shortfalls. (Attachment)

D. Housing – Commissioner Teodoro Felix

Commissioner Felix informed the Commission of the article “Deal will fix 300 units” in the Press Telegram, which explained how a \$ 28.7 million deal to refinance and rehabilitate more than 300 existing affordable homes housing units in dozen apartment projects across the city. Commissioner Felix also informed the Commission of the article “Home prices continue climb” in the Press Telegram, which explained that housing affordability in California fell an annual 6 percentage points during February, but improved slightly from the prior month. (Attachment)

E. Safety and Crime Prevention – Commissioner Patricia Bergendahl

Commissioner Bergendahl distributed the Long Beach Police Department crime stats for 2003 and 2004. She also distributed articles from the Press Telegram entitled “Violence dips: property crime up,” which explained how California preliminary report credits 3% drop to police; Long Beach homicides fell 27%, but property crimes rose by 2.8%, and “Crime drops 18.4 % in Long Beach,” which explained how Auto thefts, burglaries drop, but homicides are up. (Attachment)

F. Quality of Life and Leisure – Commissioner Florence Dodge

Commissioner Dodge informed the Commission that she has received program information from Fred Towns of Silverado Park for senior participants in the Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine's senior programming.

G. Community Relations – Commissioner Betty Davenport

Commissioner Wall stated that she spoke with Commissioner Teofilo in regards to the Senior Directory and she did not feel that Partners of Parks was going to purchase the binding equipment; so she suggested that we contact St. Mary's Hospital to ask if they would be able to make 1,000 copies of the Senior Directory.

Commissioner Davenport telephoned Del Ransom to inform the Commission that Partners of Parks is in the process of purchasing the binding equipment to move forward with Parks, Recreation and Marine's Graphics Department in the development of the Senior Directory.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Mother-in-Law Units

Councilwoman Kell provided the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission with a State and Local Regulations chart related to secondary housing units. This chart indicated the zoning districts that permit secondary housing units. (Attachment)

Commissioner Yolken informed the Commission on how the state is trying to implement a low-cost housing bill that would make it possible for anyone to have a Mother-in-Law unit.

B. Ambulance Services in Long Beach

Commissioner Wall contacted the office of Councilwoman Kell to get an update and the response from her office was, "Council is still in the process of collecting information."

C. Letter to City Council

Commissioner Dodge informed the Commission that the City of Long Beach, Public Works department has put in the left-hand turn lanes on Lakewood and Stearns.

D. AARP

Commissioner Yolken informed the Commission of how AARP is trying to import prescription drugs from Canada.

Commissioner Bergendahl informed the Commission that she has been trying to get information from Canadian Prescription and has not received anything in the mail from them.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Senior Citizen Advisory Commission 2003 Annual Report

The Commission approved the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission 2003 Annual Report.

XI. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Community Services Supervisor, Shelley Hellen reported on senior activities in the Long Beach Senior Center, which included: Computer classes, AARP Driving class, and the 50's Sock Hop dance to be held on May 1, 2004.
- B. Recreation Superintendent, Belem Solis informed the Commission that the acquisition of the proposed parking lot located on Fourth and Cerritos is in the final process.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 21,	7:00 p.m.	Community Crime Prevention meeting located at 1800 E. Wardlow Street, Long Beach, CA
April 28,	6:00 p.m.	LBPD West Division Leadership Forum located at 1835 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach, CA
September	TBA	Citywide Senior Trip to San Diego

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The Executive Board meeting of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission will be held on Thursday, May 6, 2004 at 9:30 a.m., at the Long Beach Senior Center. In attendance will be Commissioners Nancy Higginson, Berry Yolken, Lu Wall, and Rose Cabanban.

The General meeting of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2004 at 9:00 a.m., at El Dorado Senior Center, 2800 Studebaker Rd., Long Beach, CA 90815.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Higginson adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.